

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

MARCH 6, 2007

On February 14th, the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) submitted an analysis of Senate Bill 156 to the Board of Supervisors. Senator Simitian's bill would enact the California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2008 and place it on the 2008 statewide primary ballot. If approved, it would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$4 Billion for library construction and renovation.

While Library Construction and Renovation Bond Acts have been put on the ballot previously, Los Angeles County and California at large have yet to meet the growing demand for essential library improvements. While Proposition 14 passed in 2000, three quarters of eligible bond applications were not awarded due to the large number of applications. The rejection of Proposition 81 in 2006 further exacerbated the challenge on the State to finance library construction and renovation.

While Los Angeles County has benefited from the 2000 bond funding for our new libraries in Lawndale and Acton/Agua Dulce, our growing needs far outweigh the resources currently available. The CAO's analysis sites that "over the past 20 years, the County Library's service area has increased by 39 percent. By 2020, the Library will

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need to add new buildings in 10 high growth areas and replace 67 of the existing buildings.”

Senator Simitian’s bond provides as a promising opportunity to meet the growing infrastructure needs of our Library system.

I, THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Adopt the recommendations as put forth by the County Librarian in the February 14th memo; and
2. Direct the CAO’s Intergovernmental Unit to actively support the amended legislation by writing a five signature letter of support to Senator Simitian, the Governor’s Office and the Los Angeles County Delegation in the Senate and Assembly in support of SB 156.

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